

STREETS RUINED  
BY AUTOMOBILES

Surface Cut and Ripped by  
Grinding, Sliding, Driving  
Motion and Chains.

## NEED BLANKET OF ASPHALT

New Formulas Being Tested So  
as to Protect Streets From  
Greater Damage.

That Richmond must adopt a new method of protecting the surface of streets in the outlying sections to prevent their being ruined by automobiles is the opinion of City Engineer Bolling, who will recommend to the Street Committee the treatment of a number of streets with a bituminous blanket on top of the usual rolled gravel. The peculiar driving motion of the rear wheels of motor cars, the growing effect of chains, and the tendency to slide and cut through the surface of the road, when the wheels are applied suddenly, makes the motor car, in the opinion of the City Engineer, the most damaging of all vehicles on the streets of the city. Furthermore, the general introduction of the motor car has tended to greatly increase traffic in outlying sections. Last summer the city, at some expense, graded and graveled Cary Street and Grove Road from the Boulevard to the new city limits. One winter's traffic has cut these newly graveled roads into an almost impassable mire. Mr. Bolling will ask for funds this year to scrape off the mud, shape up the roads and lay over them an inch or more blanket of asphalt preparation.

Testing New Formulas.  
He is making tests now as to the action of the weather on the various formulas which have been offered for paving such a proportion of streets to determine whether they become brittle and show a tendency to chip and break in freezing weather. Mr. Bolling maintains that for highly developed streets where the value of the outlay is tended to grow more permanent nor satisfactory paving than the asphalt blocks used here on Grace, Franklin and other streets, the price of which has averaged about \$2.20 per yard, and laid on concrete, as would be necessary in the case of a heavily traveled street like Broad.

As soon as weather permits, an experiment will be made on Fifth Street, between Franklin and Main, with a bituminous macadam pouring on at boiling heat a mixture of tar and asphalt over hard-rolled macadam. The cost of this will be about one-half of the asphalt block paving, while the cost of the proposed new formula, without the expense of the heavy stone courses used in macadamizing, will be much less.

New Streets Ruined.  
The February number of an American City magazine devoted to municipal problems and civic betterment, contains an article by City Engineer Bolling, abstracting a paper on the same subject which he read before the American Association for the Advancement of Science at Washington on December 29, in which Mr. Bolling urged a concentrated effort on the part of cities in street building to have water, gas and sewer mains protected by the laying of a concrete or asphalt covering on the surface of the streets. Mr. Bolling tells of streets carefully built and drained in the outlying sections of Richmond which have been subsequently ruined by other departments of the city government, which had failed to lay water and gas mains before the street was completed. He says:

"Wherever thus installed the results are a series of ruts and mounds in the streets. I have never seen a street properly repaired after being cut up for pipes. In communities that are improving and developing, the first cry is for a good road. Then later follows the demand for water, sewerage and light. After a while these necessary construction projects are made at long intervals. With each pipe construction the street is cut into, again injured and finally the street or road has to be entirely reconstructed."

Lack of Co-Operation.  
Instances could be multiplied where the Light Committee has rejected notice after notice from the engineer's department that a street was to be improved, because there were not then sufficient houses on the street to make the laying of a main profitable. Not only does Mr. Bolling recommend the laying of all mains in advance of street construction, but also that the side connections be made to the curb line of each lot, whether such a lot be built upon or not.

Even if some of these connections go unused for years, Mr. Bolling holds that such construction would be the greatest economy in the long run, and in the meanwhile a protection and comfort to users of the street. In communities where sewer, water and gas are provided, growth and improvements come rapidly, and it has been the experience here that such streets are built up even before the improvements are provided.

"I recognize," says Mr. Bolling, "the fact that the time will never come when the streets of a city or town will not have to be cut into for repairs and various other purposes, and that to a large extent what has been brought to your attention applies to local conditions as evidenced in my own experience. At the same time I feel assured that by consideration and co-operation in the laying of underground pipes prior to the surface improvement of a road or street much money can be saved in construction, and especially in maintenance."

Held for Housebreaking.  
Robert Fowler, colored, was arrested yesterday by Detective-Sergeants Wiley and Kellam on a charge of breaking into the house of Gertrude Mayo, 105 North Fifth Street, and stealing a watch, handbag and other articles.

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YOU CAN BEAT YOUR WIFE  
IF YOU FIND IT NECESSARY  
Or Your Mother, Too, When You Are Justified,  
but Unless You Are, New Law Provides So  
Many Lashes at Whipping Post.

Although the General Assembly refused to give the women the right of suffrage, the House of Delegates came to their rescue on Saturday and passed a bill providing the whipping post for any person "cruelly and without justification beating his wife or mother." There is nothing in the bill which affords a mother-in-law, that dear old creature who has been so unmercifully maligned. Nobody paid any attention to the bill as it was sliding through. Nobody dared oppose it. And yet as it stands, that phrase "without justification," may save many a wife-beater from the punishment he so richly deserves.

According to the understanding of many eminent lawyers, there is in Virginia today a law which gives a man the right to whip his wife, provided he uses a stick no bigger than his thumb. Some men have big thumbs. There is much objection to this new law, which would whip a man for beating his mother, the general idea being that a man guilty of that crime should either go to the death chair or the lunatic asylum. Not long ago a negro was asked, if he was shipwrecked with his wife and mother, would he save his wife or his mother, and without a moment's hesitation he replied that he would save the one who had the best job. He would doubtless whip accordingly.

There is a rather large element that looks upon the whipping post as a form of barbarism, but this same element cannot understand why the Legislature of Virginia should pass a law to whip a man who beat his wife or mother "without justification." If those two words had been left out it might have been easy. Now, the question of justification must be determined by a court or a jury, yet the question, "Is a man justified in beating his wife or mother?" may be a prolific subject of

OFFICERS SEE MAN  
ROBBED IN STREET  
ELEVEN PLAYERS  
CAUGHT IN RAID

Negro Highwaymen Hold Up  
Mike Kouriski at Seven-  
teenth and Grace.

In full view of Detective-Sergeant Kellam and Patrolman Kuhn, Walter Randolph and Clinton Harris, colored youths, yesterday morning held up and robbed Mike Kouriski, of 627 North Seventeenth Street, at Grace and Seventeenth Streets. The officers saw one of the negroes strike the white man a stunning blow with his fist. At first they were not aware of what was happening and after hesitating a minute ran toward the highwaymen, but the latter had been through the pockets of Kouriski and secured what change he had and ran off. The officers still did not know he had been robbed, and before he recovered sufficiently from his excitement the negroes had escaped.

Sergeant Kellam at once started a search for them, having been told of the robbery. He was on the street when he saw the two negroes, who were holding a small bag. He found them yesterday morning about 3 o'clock in an alley in the East End of the city. They were taken to the First Police Station and charged with highway robbery.

Harris tallied with the description furnished the police by Mrs. Chas. Pullen, of 224 South Belvidere Street, of a man she reported Saturday as having snatched her pocketbook as she was passing through Seventeenth Street. A warrant for his arrest was charge will likely be sworn out, while it expected that he is guilty of snatching a watch from the hands of E. N. Grose, colored, while he was standing at the corner of Eighteenth and Main Streets.

## SLASHES HIS FACE

Negro Flereely Attacks Woman Who  
Asked Him For Dinner.

Henrietta Thomas, colored, of 3115 Second Street, Fulton, was badly slashed on the face yesterday afternoon by Andrew McCobbs, colored. The woman, who was asked for dinner, said she was on her way to the city hall, and that she had a knife and an extent that he drew a knife and cut her face from the forehead to the chin. The blade passed over the right eye, striking the lids, but missing the eyeball in attempting to interfere. Joe Winston, father of the woman, was badly cut about the arm.

The City Hospital was notified, and Dr. R. E. Watts responded. McCobbs was still present, but when he saw the approach of the ambulance he beat a hasty retreat. It is believed has left the city. The police of the First District have been notified.

It was necessary for Dr. Watts to take sixteen stitches in the woman's face. McCobbs is said to be a desperate character, and is armed with a knife and a revolver.

## HAD TOO MUCH LIQUOR

Negro Arrested on Charge of Operating a Speakeasy.  
Clark Custer, colored, was arrested yesterday morning by Detective-Sergeants Wiley and Kellam on a charge of operating a "speakeasy" in an alley from Third to Fourth Streets, between Broad and Grace Streets. A large quantity of whiskey in half-pint flasks was secured as evidence.

Custer was in trouble last week when he was arrested for assaulting James Whitaker. It is shown that the two men were in a fight, and Whitaker was sent to the grand jury, while Custer was dismissed.

Alexander Valentine was also arrested for selling whiskey without a license. He was caught by Officers Street and Bernstein.

Officer Napier Hurt.  
Bicycle Policemen J. C. Napier was badly hurt when he was thrown from his wheel in Grace Street, near Fifth Street, about 11:30 o'clock. He was picked up by Ray H. H. MacLachlan, pastor of the Seventh Street Christian Church, who notified the City Hospital. Dr. Huleher responded and found the officer to be bruised about the back and legs. He was taken to his home, 509 Church Street.

The fall was caused by one of the spokes in the front wheel breaking.

LIQUOR LICENSES  
TO BE INCREASED

Committee Agrees on Plan to  
Add \$64,000 Yearly to  
State's Revenue.

## TWO WEEKS OF SESSION LEFT

Long Hours of Work Will Clear  
Calendars of Many  
Measures.

As a result of a compromise on the amendments to the Byrd liquor law, the license taxes on the sale of liquor in Virginia will be increased to a material amount. The amended bill will be reported this morning to the House of Delegates by its Committee on Finance.

The State license tax on concerns which do a strictly retail business will be increased only \$25, making it \$575 instead of \$550. Summer resort hotels, which are granted license for the season, will be rebated accordingly.

The amount to be paid for the license known as retail and shipper's has been increased \$200, from \$1,000 to \$1,200. This confers the right of selling liquor not only in the house, but of shipping to any point within or without the State in quantities not to exceed four and one-half gallons to one individual on weekdays.

On wholesalers the increase is from \$1,250 to \$1,750, or a raise of \$500. The protest made against the proposed doubling of this tax—for the bill originally made it \$2,500—was not from the wholesalers, who said they could stand it, but from the shippers, who contended they were obliged to take out not only the retail and shipper's, but the wholesale license as well, to all the large orders from "dry" towns and parties who wished to sell again. A hundred half-plats, for instance, was mentioned as a frequent order to appease the thirst in "dry" States to the South.

In the beginning the bill would have made the retail license cost \$750 and the retail and shipper's license \$1,800. Evidently the committee thought these prices too high.

According to an estimate made by Chairman Bowman, the increase will result in a net gain to the State of \$1,000 the year. This will come in very nicely, since when the Committee on Finance are looking in every direction for money enough to pay the running expenses of the State and to heed the call for continuance in the enterprises in behalf of education and of care for the unfortunate, to which the Commonwealth is committed.

Big Sum From Licenses.  
This will make a total of close to \$600,000 the year received by the State from liquor licenses alone. The Auditor's report shows that for the year ending July 1, 1911, the amount received in the State treasury from liquor licenses was \$534,211.95, and the addition of \$64,000, it will be seen, brings it almost to the \$600,000 mark—probably more for the next year, since there are rather more saloons in Virginia than there were one year ago.

This huge sum is only about \$100,000 short of the total money required by the State from licenses on all other kinds of business combined. According to the Auditor, from licenses other than liquor Virginia received last year \$497,770. Of course, these figures do not show nearly all the income from these business enterprises, whether from liquor or otherwise, since property taxes in addition amount to a large sum. Besides, the localities receive large amounts of license money.

Work of Legislature.  
Two weeks' twelve working days—remain of the session of the Legislature of 1912. Very few measures of importance have been finally disposed of—only the emergency pension bill, the amendments to the Constitution, permitting city treasurers and commissioners of the revenue to succeed themselves and providing commissioner government for cities, and the bill for the protection of robins. The House has not yet agreed to the Senate amendments to the rolling stock tax bill, but will probably do so.

It seems that the House will pass the line grinding bill, probably to-day, and it is almost certain to become a law in some form. Tax commission talk will consume a good deal of the work of the House this week, with the result very doubtful. The legislative redistricting bill, which is scheduled to make its appearance from the committee this afternoon, will possibly cause a good deal of fighting.

The Senate is to act on the Byrd-Featherston primary bill this week. The first hearing on the Jordan prohibition enabling act will be had to-night, and the matter may come to a head at any moment.

With the long sessions which begin this morning, the House can easily clear its docket by the time for final adjournment.

ATTACK BUDGET ON  
FLOOR OF COUNCIL

Madison Ward Expected to Lead  
Fight on Eve of Primary  
Election.

## NEW MOTOR FIRE ENGINE

No More Ornamental Lights and  
No Music in Parks Next  
Summer.

Reports indicate a concerted fight to break the forthcoming annual city budget by those who desire restriction to the Common Council in new Madison Ward, and who, in order to secure votes from South Richmond, propose to force compacted in the fire engine house there. The Board of Fire Commissioners, besides asking a general increase in pay for all its members, presented a schedule of new machinery desired. It is now an open secret that the new fire engine, reported to the Council to-night, contains an item of \$3,000 for a new motor fire engine, similar to that in the Second Street engine house.

The new machine is to be installed at the intersection of the river, Twenty-fifth and Broad Streets, and the steam fire engine now used there to be transferred to No. 12 Company, at Strawberry and Cary Streets. The board will also provide funds for three light motor cars for the chiefs.

While this new machinery will greatly increase the fire-fighting capacity of the department, it does not increase the number of firemen, nor does it increase the annual expense of maintenance of the department. In addition, however, the commissioners asked for a new motor hook and ladder truck with aerial extension ladders, to cost \$11,000. The plan was to install this machine in one of the truck houses on the north side of the river, preferably at some central location, in order to transfer to South Richmond one of the smaller horse-drawn trucks now in service. Not only does this entail the initial cost of the new machine, but adds a new hook and ladder company to the force, with ten men, the annual pay of whom would be \$2,545, all to be located in South Richmond.

It is reported that the budget-makers did not include a fund for this new truck and hook and ladder company in the use of motor apparatus was yet somewhat experimental, though the test here of the automobile engine has been most satisfactory. The new machine, with good pumping power, but no fire, shown speed in reaching remote sections in brief time. With the new bridge opened this summer, it is believed that the motor engines can reach any part of the city as quickly as they can the stage exposed point in the older city.

But a primary election is coming on, and there are now forty Councilmen, of whom only twenty can be elected. The City Department vote is strong and well organized, and there are five fire engine companies in new Madison Ward—Broad Street, Fifth Street, Third Street, Cary Street, and South Richmond, with a hook and ladder company at the Broad Street house.

For years Fulton has clamored unsuccessfully for what Washington Ward now asks. From the report current in the Fire Department, Carter Maule (where did Maule come from?) the fight to break the budget in order to include the new motor truck and provide for a truck company on the south side, and report has it that most of the members from new Madison Ward are also in the fight. An effort is being made to have the floor of the Council to have the budget include funds for ornamental lights on Thirty-fourth and other streets, no fund for such lighting being included in the new budget.

The budget for last year was adopted as it came from the Finance Committee with but one amendment: \$4,500 for music in the parks was transferred from the fund for paying alloys, and when a number of alloys went unpaved as result the author of that motion, Mr. Lynch, admitted that had been a mistake, while the squabbling over the contract, the cost of bandstands, and the damage to the Committee heavily on the whole matter, and no item is included in request of the parks department for music. If any city band is to play it will be over the wishes both of the Parks and Buildings and Finance Committees.

Department heads generally express the hope that there will be no serious fight over the budget, as that usually means delay at a time when it is most important that funds be made available so the new work can be put under contract. Auditor Warren has already characterized the Committee on Finance tersely as "good spenders," in view of the total amount set apart for this budget, so that it is hardly probable that its total will be materially increased. Whatever is put on in one place must be taken off another, and from reports current the effort will be made to take the fund for the new motor truck and the pay for new truck company for South Richmond either from the fund for the new First Regiment Armory, or from that for streets generally on the north side of the river, the street fund of South Richmond being guaranteed under the annexation act. For ornamental lighting it is doubtful if any effort will be made to increase the appropriation, but the plan now is merely to have the wording of the appropriation for electric plant expenses and equipment so altered that a portion of the fund can be used by the Committee on Electricity, for such ornamental lighting as it determines upon. This was the plan followed last year by Chairman Lynch and Alderman Melton, of the Committee on Electricity, who had erected, unknown to the Finance Committee, and over the protest of members of their own committee, the ornamental lighting system of Jefferson Avenue, a popular measure politically in their hand, though funds were diverted from the general fund for lighting of the city to accomplish it.

The appropriation ordinance will be reported to the Council to-night, but since it cannot be acted on the night it is introduced, it will be at once tabled and the Council will adjourn either to another meeting later this week to take the paper up and act on it, or to the regular monthly meeting next Monday night. It is not expected that there will be any debate on the ordinance to-night, as all amendments will probably be deferred until the paper comes up for final action.

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WOMAN SWEARS JOHN DREW  
LOOKS JUST LIKE BEN OWEN

She Didn't Exactly Swear, but She Got Others  
in the Notion While Reeling Off Yards of  
Talk Over Busy Telephone Wire.

Some young woman with a perfect lovely voice called up over the telephone last night to ask if John Drew, the actor, was related to Ben P. Owen, the well known vice-Governor, who is probably just as good an actor as Mr. Drew.

"Do you know," she said, "when I saw Mr. Drew's picture in the paper this morning I really thought it was Ben Owen? Don't you think they are exactly alike? Now, here is my scheme. I had a little entertainment on Friday afternoon, and if I could get Mr. Drew and Mr. Owen to assist me I know it would be a big success, and everybody would want tickets, and it would be a lot of money at the door, and there would be a lovely time for everybody, and the newspapers would print lots about it, and wouldn't it be grand?"

Once or twice a busy man on the other end of the wire endeavored to break away, but it couldn't be done, so he put the receiver on the desk and went on about his business. By and by he picked it up again and caught the tail end of the conversation, without knowing what he missed in the middle.

"—and she said to me that I ought to be ashamed of myself that actors and vice-Governors, but I repeated what she said to her, and we had the cutest argument. Then one of my gentleman friends, who has been to New York, said that Lizzie was right (the first reference to Lizzie must have been made while the receiver was lying on the desk), for Mr. Drew was an actor and a man who went out to help people get their names in the society column."

The bounds of midnight were on the trail of the pen, so the receiver was flopped down on the desk. And again Maule (where did Maule come from?) said she was up at the Legislature the day they put the kibosh to woman's suffrage, and she saw the vice-Governor, and he didn't look a bit like an actor. But Alice (please shut the gate and keep the others out) said that she party would be a bigger success if we could get a singer or a fortune teller, and we never could agree on just what we wanted anyway. And won't you please answer—

Then it took two minutes of valuable time to turn to the old printed picture, and sure enough the actor does look something like Mr. Owen, and Mr. Owen does look something like the actor. But the only information the talker got

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## Save Our Trees

Forestry experts are alarmed over the chestnut tree blight in ten different sections of Virginia, the fact having been brought out at the recent conference called by the Governor of Pennsylvania to consider methods of preventing timber losses.

Let Virginia, with her enormous wealth of chestnut timber, take measures to protect her natural assets.

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